

APPENDIX C

Land Management Zones

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Tennessee State Parks Land Management Zoning Criteria October 20, 2000

In order to protect park lands from the ever increasing demands of park users, wise land use planning is essential. The goal of land zoning is to ensure that park areas are not “loved to death” by park visitors and lose the qualities that attracted visitors in the first place.

In addition to a Park Classification System, specific Land Management Zoning criteria will guide the planning for specific areas by establishing land use “zones” within each park. These zones will ensure that optimum recreation opportunities are offered while still protecting the natural and cultural values of the park area. Sound land use planning will establish guidelines for new park development to minimize conflicts in the future.

All of the land within each park will be zoned according to the current and future needs. The zones will reflect the current level of development and use, and will accommodate the long range goals of the park.

The implementation of land use zoning is an art and not a science. Each park area must be considered separately, all of the influences weighed and then the determination made on where to draw the line to provide the optimum balance of protection, character preservation and recreation use.

All State Parks lands will be zoned according to the following zoning criteria. These zoning applications will be incorporated into each individual Park Management Plan and will be evaluated periodically to assess their effectiveness and to determine if changes are needed.

Park Development Zone: D Zone

The D Zone is the area of land within each park that will be managed to provide and maintain facilities serving visitors and park managers and staff. The areas that it encompasses will include those where park development or intensive use may alter the natural environment or the setting for culturally significant resources. This zone will be restricted to the smallest possible area to accommodate existing facilities and activities, support systems, and the future growth or expansion of facilities. Impacts associated with developments in this zone will be mitigated to the greatest possible extent. All facilities and alterations within this zone should blend in with the surrounding landscape and facilities to the greatest possible extent.

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Transition Zone: T Zone

The T Zone is the area of land between the D zones and the other zones. Development within this zone is limited to foot, horse and bicycle trails as well as trail support facilities such as primitive campsites, shelters, and parking areas at trail heads. The T zone allows visitors the opportunity to view or directly access the park's resources by means of these trails. Visitor use is concentrated mainly to this zone as well as the D zone. These areas are typified as forested, open lands or rivers, lakes, streams or wetlands that surround the more developed areas of the park in the D Zone.

Natural Resource Zone: N Zone

The N Zone is a zone managed to conserve natural resources and ecological processes while providing for their use and enjoyment by the public in ways that do not adversely affect these resources and processes. Development in this zone is limited to dispersed recreational and essential management facilities that have no adverse effect on scenic quality and natural processes and that are essential for management, use, and appreciation of natural resources. Typical facilities within this zone include trails, signs, shelters, and walk-in storage facilities. Management activities may include trail maintenance, prescribed burns, selective timber harvests, invasive species management, and other wildlife management activities.

Cultural Resource Zone: C Zone

The C Zone includes lands that will be managed for the preservation, protection, and interpretation of cultural and historical resources and their settings and to provide for their use and enjoyment by the public. Cultural resources including those of historical and archaeological significance are to be preserved and protected within these zones. Developments within the C Zone must be compatible with preservation and interpretation of cultural values. These structures may include properties on or eligible for listing in the National or State Register of Historic Places or other resources worth preserving for their inherent value.

Permit Zone: P Zone

The P Zone includes those areas in which highly unique natural or cultural resources which are so sensitive that the impact from human activity may put them at an unacceptable level of risk. Access to these resources is limited primarily to research. A valid "Research and Collecting Permit" issued by the Director of State Parks or a temporary permit (for purposes other than research) issued by the Park Manager is required. The Park Manager may also, at his discretion require the presence of a uniformed Park Ranger during any site visit.

Tims Ford State Park Zoning Maps

Zoning Maps for Tims Ford State Park can be found as [Figure C-1](#) and [Figure C-2](#). In order to see the entire Park, you must look at both maps.